(first constituted in 1938) an organ was provided for an untrammeled expression of public opinion. In the earlier days of the removal of the center of government to Szechwan, before inflation and war weariness had become acute, something of the thrill of adventure was apparent in the West. Migrants from the coast brought to the interior Western influences and the permeation of Occidental culture in that region was stimulated. Improvements were made in local governments, the enrolment in schools mounted, the opium poppy was suppressed, industrial cooperatives were organized, natural resources were surveyed, efforts were put forth to bring into the Chinese cultural circle the non-Chinese peoples on the Tibetan borders, and the influence of the central government in Sinkiang was strengthened.

Moreover, advance was registered in freeing the land from the restrictions and inequalities imposed by the treaties and conventions of the nineteenth and the fore part of the twentieth century. In "occupied" China Japan went through the motions of turning over to Chinese administration several of the foreign concessions in the ports. These included Japanese concessions in five cities, the International Settlement at Amoy, British concessions in Canton and Tientsin, and the famous and wealthy International Settlement in Shanghai. Steps were taken to restore Chinese authority in the several French concessions and the Italian concession in Tientsin. In 1943 Japan accorded to Nanking the right to tax its subjects and their property. All these measures were

transfers of nominal authority to a puppet government which was controlled by Japanese and so were more apparent than real. However, when Japan had been expelled, Occidental powers would find difficulty in reestablishing their special privileges in the areas affected. In 1943 Great Britain and the United States negotiated new treaties with China in which they surrendered the extraterritorial privileges which had long been a source of friction. That same year the United States repealed the exclusion acts against the Chinese, placed that people on the same quota basis with European immigrants, and permitted the naturalization of Chinese. For China the war was far from being without compensating features.